

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Examiner acknowledges the amended claims filed on September 9, 2009.

Claims 3 and 4 have been amended. **Claims 1 and 2** have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 3-8 (Renumbered as 1-6 respectively)** are allowed.

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

4. **Regarding claim 3 (Renumbered as 1)**, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the plurality of types of mask image data recorded in the mask image data record section include the mask image data representing a plurality of types of mask images corresponding to the base image; wherein the display unit one at a time sequentially displays on the base image the plurality of types of mask images corresponding to the base image, and each of the sequentially displayed mask images is displayed with the base image until its corresponding combination object image is picked-up and held, and each of the sequentially displayed mask images is one at a time sequentially displayed with the base image and all previously picked-up and held combination object images that correspond to one of the sequentially displayed mask images; wherein the combination

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object image holding unit holds a plurality of combination object images which are picked up in accordance with the plurality of types of mask images displayed on the display; and wherein the image combining unit combines each of the plurality of combination object images, held by the combination object image holding unit, with the base image at the combining position based on the mask image to specify the image pickup area of the combination object image.

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nelson D. Hernández Hernández whose telephone number is (571)272-7311. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Lin Ye/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622

NDHH
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